

CLAIMS

1. An amphibious vehicle having a body, retractable road wheels mounted to the body and arranged to be moved from a lower road engaging position in a land mode to an upper faired position in a marine mode, at least one of the wheels being drivable by means of a wheel drive shaft connectable to a prime mover of the vehicle, the drivable wheel(s) having a wheel transmission comprising a drive shaft, the drive shaft comprising an inner and an outer constant velocity joint, characterized in that the inner joint is of the fixed or non-plunging type, and the outer constant velocity joint is a plunging joint.
2. An amphibious vehicle according to claim 1, where at least two wheels are drivable by means of wheel drive shafts connectable to a prime mover of the vehicle, the drivable wheels having wheel transmissions each comprising a drive shaft, each drive shaft comprising an inner and an outer constant velocity joint, characterized in that each inner joint is of the fixed or non-plunging type, and each outer constant velocity joint is a plunging joint.
3. An amphibious vehicle according to claim 1 or claim 2, where a decoupler is incorporated in at least one inner constant velocity joint.
4. An amphibious vehicle according to claim 3, where the or each decoupler incorporates a synchromesh mechanism.
5. An amphibious vehicle according to any of the above claims, where the vehicle is a planing vehicle, fitted with a transverse, mid-mounted prime mover.
6. An amphibious vehicle according to any of claims 1 to 4, where the vehicle is a planing vehicle, fitted with a longitudinal prime mover.

7. An amphibious vehicle as herein described and as illustrated in any one or more of figures 6 to 8 of the accompanying drawings.